

OKLAHOMA | WINGSPAN



UPCOMING EVENTS

June	
19-26	Texas Cadet Encampment
21-22	CN Training
July	
1-2	Tinker AFB Open House
2-17	Glider Academy New Mexico
5-8	Cadet Week Tinker AFB
8-10	SAREX
16	ICS 200
16-23	SW Region Staff College
22 -1 Aug	IACE
23-30	New Mexico Cadet Encampment
24-30	GLR Encampment
30—6 Aug	Arkansas Cadet Encampment
August	
17-20	Nat'l Conference

Volume 2, Issue 6
June 2005

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMANDER

Col. Joe R. Smith

The Oklahoma Wing welcomes Colonel Joe R. Smith as its new Wing Commander. He has been Chief of Staff since April 2002 and before that he was the Unit Commander of the Enid Composite Squadron from 1998 to 2002. He joined CAP in June 1997.

Colonel Smith is qualified as an Incident Commander, Mission Pilot and Observer. He is a Certified Flight Instructor and Instrument Instructor (CFII), with over 1,250

instructor hours and 3,800 total flying hours. He is qualified as a CAP Check Pilot, Mission Check Pilot, Instructor Pilot, Cadet Orientation Pilot, and Counter Narcotics Mission Pilot.

In his civilian job, Colonel Smith works for the Boeing Company as their Site Manager at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

Editors Note: Colonel Smith was unavailable for comments at press time.

CAP PICTURE MEMBERSHIP CARD

The March 2005 National Board approved a new, optional, CAP picture membership card for senior members.

The National Board action directed the card be available for distribution 1 October 2005 and that members have the opportunity to pre-purchase the card beginning 1 June 2005.

The start date for the distribution of the card, as well as the opportunity to pre-purchase the card, has been delayed pending final Air Force approval of the card design.

As soon as AF approval is received we will release the pre-purchase form and update the membership on the card distribution date.

OKLAHOMA WING CONFERENCE 2005

The following are the rest of the Awards that were not presented at Wing Conference due to the absence of the recipient:

Meritorious Service

Lt Col Delores Seymour

Lt Col Robert Satchell

Lt Col Bryce Herkert

Lt Col Aaron Wardlaw



Commander's Commendation

1Lt Jess Dillon

Lt Col Golda Eldridge

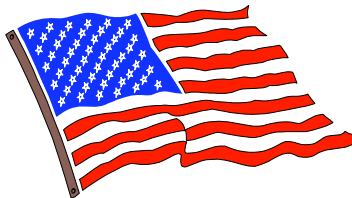
Capt Truman Hanson

Capt William Blunk

Plaque for PAO of Year Lt Chris McMasters

Plaque for Outstanding Contribution to CN: Lt Jess Dillon

(Other Awards presented at Wing Conference in Tulsa were listed on pages two and three of the May WingSpan.)



SOUTHWEST REGION STAFF COLLEGE*Arthur M. "Mike" Swanson, LTC-CAP*

Southwest Region Staff College is scheduled for July 16 to 23, 2005 at Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico. After a vigorous recruiting campaign, I have received a total of eight applications: Arizona - 4; Texas - 1; Louisiana - 1; and Michigan - 2. I spoke with Col Todd on Monday and relayed this information to him and recommended that unless we have a better turnout, the college be canceled this year. In 2004, we received a total of 17 applications and had 5 drop out before the college started. Bottom line was 12 students and we had half again as man staff, not a good ratio.

Due to the less than enthusiastic response we have had this year, I find it necessary to establish a minimum number of students at 15. Deadline for applications is June 15, 2005. If I

do not have the required number on that date, the college will be canceled on June 16. CAP has commitments at Kirtland Air Force Base that must be honored or they must be canceled in a timely fashion.

Please pass this information on to your Squadron Commanders and ask them to encourage their people to support Southwest Region Staff College and CAP.

Thank You Very Much,

Arthur M. "Mike" Swanson, LTC-CAP
Director - SWRSC 2005

**GREAT LAKE REGION SOUTHERN ENCAMPMENT***Colonel Joseph S. King, CAP, GLR PAO*

Lt. Col. Mike Wendlegast, GLR Southern Encampment Commander, announced that cadet and senior staff positions are still available. The Region's Southern Encampment is scheduled for 24-30 July 2005 at the Wendell Ford Training Center in Greenville, KY. Cadet basic slots are open as well.

This encampment offers an exciting syllabus including SARS System M16 qualification, rappelling, land navigation, obstacle course, confidence course and much more! There is a possibility of a live-fire demonstration by an M1 tank. The mess hall will not qualify as a target this time.

Along with the encampment, a Region Cadet Leadership School is scheduled. The cadet commander position is still open!

Go to the official web site to learn how you can take part in these outstanding encampment events: <http://inwg.cap.gov/falcon/camp/camp.htm>. Pass the word about these opportunities to your fellow cadets and seniors.



IACE HAS IMPACT ON NORWEGIAN CADET

From email received by Col Virginia Keller

My name is BENGTT ØIVIND ERIKSEN and I am Norwegian. During summer 1962. I participated in the International Air Cadet Exchange at an age of 18. Host state was unforgettable Oklahoma and CAP there!

My main purpose for contacting you is that I am searching for information of late Reserve Brigadier General Maurice A. Marrs. He was the CAP host for the Norwegian group in Oklahoma. With the exception of my pictures of him in my mind I also remember a few things:

- He was the commander of the Oklahoma CAP Wing
- He had spent thousands of hours in the air as a pilot
- He had a Norwegian war medal in his home
- He had a son - Maurice A. Marrs junior, who then was Capt. in USAF
- He had a C47 to his disposal with a great golden star on. We flew with it.

In a Swedish magazine from June 1945 I found an article about American Air Transport Command in Sweden. AATC was at that time working with establishing connections by air to England and USA. Head of this unit was in fact at that time Lieutenant-Colonel Maurice A. Marrs. I have later found out that he was working next to Bernt Balchen who picked him out for this operation. In 1966 I started to make inquiries about Marrs. The only reply I got was from the Department of the Air Force. They told that Marrs died April 10, 1976. So, now I am taking this matter up again. The reason is that I am very interested in the history of Marrs - his career in USAF, who he was and what he did. Perhaps you can bring my quest to persons that can give me answers? Family of Marrs? CAP files?

So to the exchange: For an 18 years old youth as me to have the opportunity to see the golden age of USA was marvellous. The memories from the IACE event has gone over to the book of memories. And - as age is increasing, memories and curiosity of the past also increases.

In Oklahoma I stayed at Tinker AFB. Hosts were the Lynch family. Their son William "Bill" was promoted to CAP Colonel during our stay.

I have taken care of all kinds of paper and gifts from that time. I have a diary and about 130 slides! It happens often that I look through it. Then the memories of course appears: The stay at Waldorf Astoria, our meeting with the late President Kennedy and Vice President Hubert Humphrey, Miss Universe and Miss USA. One of the greatest events was perhaps the renaming of Times Square - to International Air Cadet Exchange Sq. An Israel cadet and myself had the honor to do this together with Brenda Lee! She gave me one LP with her signature on which I certainly have taken very good care of. How many people in the world have renamed Times Sq.? And how many people have done that together with Brenda Lee? I suppose that Brenda Lee also has done that only once. For her it was perhaps an ordinary job. But for me it has become a lifetime memory!

I could write pages up and down about the exchange and my memories. Perhaps another time? What I indeed regret is that I never kept contact with all those great people I met in USA and specially the CAP people in Oklahoma. They gave me an unforgettable time for life! (I still have their names)

During our stay in Oklahoma I received a Certificate of Appreciation from North West Optimist Club of Oklahoma City. I am an optimist and indeed hope that you have the opportunity to write me a few words.

I have been in contact with Col. Elsworth who told me that "if anyone would have knowledge, she (you) would.

By the way: I am reading almost everything I can find on your web sides. Also two issues of Oklahoma WingSpan were found. Very interesting to read. I also noticed that you are going to have 10 cadets visiting Oklahoma this summer. I wish you good luck!

Best regards

BENGTT Ø. ERIKSEN

NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, AN INTRODUCTION COURSE

From the OKOHS website

NIMS-ICS TRAINING CLASS SCHEDULE (as of 5/27/05)

OSU-FST is now accepting registrations for the two-day NIMS-ICS course, which is equivalent to IS-100 and IS-200 training requirements. On the second day, each class will conclude with a classroom delivered version of the IS-700 "*National Incident Management System, An Introduction Course*."

Each of the training opportunities listed below is **FREE**. Students may register by calling OSU-FST at (800) 304-5727 or (405) 744-5727.

NIMS-ICS Class Schedule

June 3 - 4: Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center, Seminar Center, 4601 N. Choctaw Rd., Choctaw

June 10 - 11: Canadian Valley Technology Center, Seminar Room A, 6505 East Highway 66, El Reno

June 17 - 18: Pontotoc Technology Center, Room 410, 601 W. 33rd St., Ada

June 24 - 25: High Plains Technology Center, Main Building, 3921 34th St., Woodward **June 24 - 25:** Great Plains Technology Center, Auditorium, 4500 SW Lee Blvd., Lawton

July 8 - 9: Kiamichi Technology Center, 1509 S McKenna, Highway 271 South, Poteau

NIMS-ICS TRAIN-THE-TRAINER SCHEDULE

July 8 - 9: Great Plains Technology Center, Room 301A, 4500 SW Lee Blvd., Lawton

July 15 - 16: Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center, Seminar Center, 4601 N. Choctaw Rd., Choctaw

For OSU-FST NIMS training questions contact OSU-FST at (800) 304-5727 or (405) 744-5727. All other questions about NIMS in general, NIMS training or the NIMS Implementation Plan should be directed to OKOHS at (405) 425-7296.



GLIDER ACADEMY

New Mexico Wing has openings for cadets at its glider academy 2-17 July 2004 which will be held at Las Cruces, NM. Any cadet wishing to apply to NMWG glider academy should be encouraged to do so not later than 5 June. POC is Paul Cline, 505-525-2926 (H), 505-527-7733 (W), 505-639-1078 (cell) or e-mail at prcline2431@yahoo.com or pcline@nmsu.edu.



CAP'S NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Dwight H. Wheless Major General, CAP Commander

As a member of Civil Air Patrol, you're an **EVERYDAY HERO!** You volunteer in your community every day, day in and day out, to make it an even better place to live and work.

Civil Air Patrol's heroes are the heart and soul of our organization and in recognition of your volunteer spirit, you will be honored during CAP's National Conference to be held August 17-20 in St. Louis.

At the beautiful Adam's Mark Hotel in downtown St. Louis, you'll network with national CAP leaders, share best practices through dozens of learning labs, and enjoy the camaraderie of other dedicated CAP volunteers at special events like CAP Night with the St. Louis Cardinals and our annual National Recognition Ceremony. Plus, you'll have the chance to hear Jack Pelton, president and CEO of Cessna Aircraft Company, share his thoughts on leadership Friday morning during the General Assembly.

Also, you don't want to miss the closing banquet, where you will hear remarks from Lt Col Eric Boe, a former CAP cadet slated for one of NASA's two upcoming space shuttle flights. Lt Col Boe credits his successful career in the Air Force to CAP mentors who fostered his love of aviation and to classroom teachers who introduced him to aerospace education.

If you invest in only one CAP activity this year, the National Conference should be your choice. And, if you sign up before August 3, you can save 30 percent off your registration fee and may even qualify to win a free laptop computer.

Ready to find out more? Go to www.cap.gov/natcon.

Meet me in St. Louis and see the faces of Civil Air Patrol's "Everyday Heroes"!

Sincerely,
Dwight H. Wheless
Major General, CAP
Commander

**EVERYDAY
HEROES**
The Faces of Civil Air Patrol



Civil Air Patrol's
2005 National Conference
August 17-20, 2005 • St. Louis, Missouri
...performing Missions for America.



The OKLAHOMA WINGSPAN is the official newsletter of the Oklahoma Wing of Civil Air Patrol and is published by Public Affairs Officer Capt. Kathy Curtin.

Deadline for submission of articles is 25th of each month and newsletters will be distributed at the monthly Wing Staff Meeting. Items will be approved by the Wing Commander and printed according to importance, timeliness, and available space. Articles submitted are printed "As-Is" and the Public Affairs Officer assumes no responsibility for correctness, punctuation, and grammar. Comments or articles can be submitted to the attention of OK WINGSPAN at OkHorseFly@aol.com.